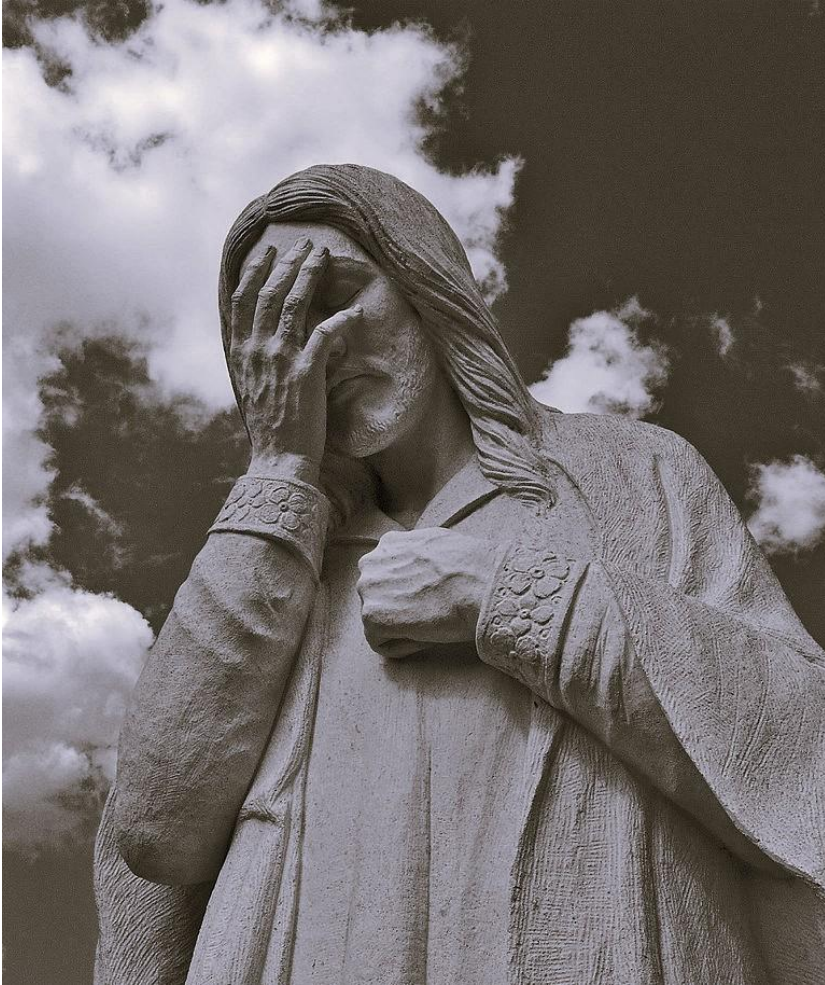


Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

Camden, Maine

The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

*Children are always welcome in the church.
Please be sure your cell phone is inaudible.*

The ministers enter in silence

Penitential Order

The Book of Common Prayer, page 319

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People His mercy endureth for ever.

Confession of Sin & Absolution

page 320

Kyrie

page 324

The Collect

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the Book of Genesis [15:1-12,17-18]

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 27

- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? *
the LORD is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who
stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- 4 And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.
- 5 One thing have I asked of the LORD;
one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the LORD *
and to seek him in his temple.
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe
in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.
- 8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.
- 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the LORD.
- 10 Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.
- 11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, LORD, will I seek.

- 12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
- 13 You have been my helper;
cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the LORD will sustain me.
- 15 Show me your way, O LORD; *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
- 16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.
- 17 What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of the LORD *
in the land of the living!
- 18 O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure;
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the LORD.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians [3:17-4:1]

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke [13:31-35]

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem,

the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon The Rev. Paul Briggs

Nicene Creed page 326

Prayers of the People V page 389

Blessings for birthdays, anniversaries, and other life events

The Peace page 332

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn 441 In the cross of Christ *Rathbun*

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer I* page 333

The Lord's Prayer page 336

The Breaking of the Bread page 337

The Communion

This is God's table; all are welcome

Postcommunion Prayer page 339

Solemn Prayer Over the People

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hymn 401 The God of Abraham praise *Leoni*

Dismissal R/ *Thanks be to God*

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Welcome visitors and newcomers; we are glad you are here! If you would like more information about the community of St. Thomas, please speak to a greeter or a member of the clergy. To receive information by email, please fill out a blue card found in the pew and give to an usher or place in the offering plate.

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs
Organist: Clarissa Brown, Minister of Music
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Sandy Lyle
Lay Reader: Jan Lyle
Prayers of the People: Sandy Lyle
Usher: Jan Lyle

People in our Prayers

Healing: Jerry Hoff and Catherine, Gay Schueler, Kristina Shea, Virginia Johns, Ted and Kit Wagner, Tony, Dana, Mya Delisle, Andrew Moran, Donovan, Carolyn Moore, Debra and Amy, Ned and Kathleen Bachus, Lynne, Anna and her child Brody, Ruth Tolman, Helene, John, Phyllis, Michael, Bob, Sylvia, Matthew Jackson, Marlene, Percy, Joan Grey, Cathy, James, Ken, Joseph, Kelli McGuire, Jo Panayotoff, Joyce S, Jan Schaefer, Christine & Paul M, Jason, Kristen, Jeanie, Cathie, Brian, Bob S., Gary P., Sandy, Ezra, Chris Strazzulla Fr. Tom Pike, Evie Bridges, Luke Morelli, Tim Peters, Janice Boetsch, Lucy Ebbert, Shirley, Budge Walen, Chris, Vicki Boetsch, Catherine G, Annabel, Pam Kaler, Margery, Nick, Stephanie, Kyle R.

For the repose of the soul: Fred Jordan and Nancy Remchuk

March Birthdays: Michael Moore (5), Andrew Moran (6), Joseph Kulick (14), Jamie Popejoy (17), Terry Mello (19), Marilyn Smith (20), Benjy Lowry (27)

Diocese Cycle of Prayer: St. Luke's, Wilton , St. Anne's, Calais, For parishes in transition

This Week at St. Thomas'

Sunday, March 16:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour (*Parish Hall*)
11:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (*Music Room*)
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (*Lady Chapel*)

Wednesday, March 19:

9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer and Healing Service
11:00 a.m. Bible Study
4:00 p.m. Tower Committee Meeting

Sunday, March 23:

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
11:15 Coffee Hour (*Parish Hall*)
11:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (*Music Room*)
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (*Lady Chapel*)

A.A. meetings are held daily at 6:30 p.m.

Church Staff and Parish Officers

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admin@stthomascamdenme.org

Office: 207-236-3680

The Rev. Paul Briggs, Interim Rector

interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org

(860) 384-9193

The Rev. Dr. Rosalee Glass, *Deacon Emeritus*

Clarissa Brown, *Organist & Choir Director*

Tony Coyne, *Sexton*

Elizabeth Moran, *Senior Warden*

Br. Donovan Bowley, BSG, *Junior Warden*

Terry Mello, *Treasurer*

Anne Rogers-Popejoy, *Vestry Clerk*

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St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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